

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

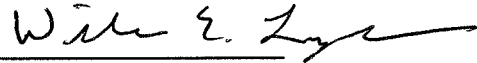
The Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on September 27, 2006 has been found to be non-compliant under 37 CFR 1.121 because the listing of claims 9-15 include the status identifier "*Currently Amended*" instead of the status identifier "*Withdrawn – Currently Amended*".

Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the determination of non-compliance on this ground, nevertheless, Applicants have submitted the section of the response entitled "Amendments to the Claims", including the required corrections, to clearly obviate the above noted ground of non-compliance solely in order to expedite prosecution of the present application.

Accordingly, in view of the above noted remarks, it is believed that the present response is proper and Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the determination of non-compliance, and consideration of the Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on September 27, 2006, as well as the Supplemental Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 filed on October 27, 2006. Further, an early indication of the allowance of all of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
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